



Traffic Safety News

From the Delaware Office of Highway Safety

May 2012 – *Click It or Ticket*

The Delaware Office of Highway Safety, Police, and Emergency Medical Personnel are serious about seat belt safety. Each May, OHS promotes seat belt use during the annual Click It or Ticket campaign, which pairs high-visibility enforcement with intense public awareness with the sole purpose of raising seatbelt use by drivers and passengers. This year, we are teaming up with Emergency responders with the message, "Seat belts save more lives than we do."

What you need to know

Drive without a seatbelt and a ticket could be the least of your worries. Just ask a paramedic:

- Wearing a seat belt decreases your risk of being seriously injured or killed in a crash by 50%.
- Unbelted occupants in crashes are 3 times more likely to require a hospital stay.
- On average, hospital costs for an unbelted crash victim is 55% higher than those of a belted victim.
- Strong seatbelt laws protect families. When parents are buckled up, 90% of the time their children are too.

What you can do

Follow the seat belt law every time you get in the car and remind others to do the same. Not only could it save your life, but help you avoid needless fines.

- Everyone in the vehicle, including back seat passengers and children, must wear seat belts properly.
- Shoulder and lap belts must be worn across the chest and low on the hips.
- The driver will receive a ticket for anyone in the vehicle who does not buckle up. Fines are \$25 plus court costs, which can total more than \$70.

Between May 14th and May 28th there will be daily enforcement of DE's seat belt laws in the form of checkpoints and patrols as part of the Click It or Ticket campaign. For more information on this, please go to www.ohs.delaware.gov/ seatbelts. Follow us on Facebook/ArriveAliveDE and Twitter/ DeHighwaySafe.

Click It or Ticket. Arrive Alive DE.

This message is brought to you by the Delaware Office of Highway Safety, who asks you to drive safely at all times. For more information on this and other traffic safety programs, go to www.ohs.delaware.gov.